

NRCS-Alaska Technical Guide
Section III
Quality Criteria –Air

| Natural Resource Concern | Description of Concern | State Quality Criteria | Assessment Tools for Quality Criteria Evaluation |
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| AIR | | | |
| Air Quality - Particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM 10) | Particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter are suspended in the air causing potential health hazards to humans and animals. | Land use and management operations comply with PM 10 requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific guidelines contained in State or Federal Implementation Plan; or other approved NRCS tool. • Air quality analysis |
| Air Quality - Particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM 2.5) | Particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter are suspended in the air causing potential health hazards to humans and animals. | Land use and management operations comply with PM 2.5 requirements of the State or Federal Implementation Plan and all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific guidelines contained in State or Federal Implementation Plan; or other approved NRCS tools |
| Air Quality - Ammonia (NH3) | Animal waste and inorganic commercial fertilizers emit ammonia that contributes to odor, is a PM2.5 precursor, and contributes to acid rain. | Land use and management operations comply with requirements of all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved NRCS technical guidance and tools |
| Air Quality - Chemical Drift | Materials applied for pest control drift downwind and contaminate/injure non-targeted fields, crops, soils, water, animals and humans. | Land use and management operations comply with all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations, and applicable label directions. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved NRCS technical guidance and tools |
| Air Quality - Objectionable Odors | Land use and management operations produce offensive smells. | Odor-producing facilities and activities are planned and sited to mitigate potential nuisance impacts and meets all applicable Tribal, State, and Local regulations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Olfactory assessment • Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook (AWMFH) • NRCS approved tools |

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| AIR | | | |
| Air Quality - Reduced Visibility | Sight distance is impaired due to airborne particles causing unsafe conditions and impeded viewing of natural vistas especially in Class I viewing areas (primarily national parks and monuments). | Land use and management operations comply with all applicable Federal, Tribal, State, and Local regulations including state and local smoke and/or burn management plans. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual assessment • Regional air partnership recommendations and/or state guidance for smoke management |
| Air Quality - Undesirable Air Movement | Wind velocities (too little or too much) reduce animal or plant productivity, impact human comfort and increase energy consumption. | Devices and practices are sited and planned to mitigate excess or deficient air movement. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual assessment • Anemometers • Approved NRCS technical guidance and tools |
| Air Quality - Adverse Air Temperature | Air temperatures (too cold or too hot) reduce animal or plant productivity, impact human comfort and increase energy consumption. | Devices and practices are planned and sited to mitigate temperature extremes. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chill factor indices; heat indices • Air temperature assessment • Thermometer |